



Stay Healthy During Cleanup!

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services encourages everyone cleaning up after the recent flooding to stay healthy by following these tips:

- Always wear mosquito spray to avoid being infected with West Nile virus.
- Take precautions when cleaning areas that contain mice droppings, nests or dead mice. For more information, see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome web pages at:
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/index.htm>.
- Make sure your tetanus vaccination is up to date (within 10 years).
- Dispose of garbage properly.
- Wash your hands before you eat or drink.
- Drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Take breaks in the shade or an air-conditioned car to avoid heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
- Lift heavy objects properly to avoid back injuries.
- Wear sturdy shoes, protective eyewear and masks, if possible.
- If you are injured during cleanup, wash the wound with soapy water and seek medical care if needed.

For more information about any of these guidelines, please contact the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services' Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Section at 406.444.0273.